मानखुर्द और नेरूल के बीच रेल लाइन का बिछाया जाना

1171. **श्री छोटूभाई पटेल:**

क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या मानखुर्द (बम्बई) और नेरूल के बीच रेल लाइन बिछाने संबंधी निर्माण कार्य पूरा हो गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार उपर्युक्त लाइन को कसाराघाट तक बढ़ाने का विचार रखती है जिससे बम्बई और पुणे के बीच की दूरी को 50 कि०मी० तक कम किया जा सके;

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के०सी० लेंका): (क) जी हां।

(ख) से (घ) जी नहीं, तथापि, रेलों में भविष्य में मानखुर्द-बेलापुर रेल लाइन को करजत तक बढ़ाने के लिए पनवेल से करजत तक भूमि अधिग्रहण के प्रस्ताव का अनुमोदन कर दिया है, जिससे पुणे और बम्बई के बीच की रेल-दूरी लगभग 30 कि०मी० कम हो जायेगी। बहरहाल, लाइन का निर्माण योजना आयोग के अनुमोदन और आगामी वर्षों में संसाधनों की उपलब्धता पर निर्भर करेगा।

Harassment of passengers by touts

1172. SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR YADAV 'RAVI': Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaints have been received regarding harassment of genuine Railway passengers by touts in major metropolitan cities compelling the passengers to buy Railway tickets from them in connivance with Railway employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to ensure sale of tickets from Railway counters only; and

(d) the number of surprise checks and raids conducted during last one year to curb the activities of the touts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LENKA): (a) No, Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Sufficient number of computerised passenger reservation terminals/counters have been provided for purchase of tickets by passengers. Publicity is also made advising the public against buying railway tickets from unauthorised sources as the same is illegal and punishable under Railways Act, 1989.

(d) During 1992 as many as 12,872 checks were made to curb the activities of touts including 4372 at reservation offices and 8500 on trains resulting into detection of 2051 touts and 13850 cases of travel on transferred tickets.

Refund of the superfast charges to passengers due to late running of trains

1173. Dr. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the District Consumer Disputes Redressal Forum in Delhi has directed the Railway Board to refund the superfast charges to passengers in case of late running of trains; and

(b) whether Government have studied the above decision and if so, whether a decision has been taken for automatically refunding of the superfast charges to the passengers when the trains are late beyond a certain time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) In a case filed by S/Shri S. Bharath and KB. Dania regarding late running of Tamil Nadu Express on 23.12.91, the Consumer Disputes Redressal Forum, Delhi has directed the Railway to refund the difference of fare between a passenger train and a Supcrfast train alongwith Rs. 250 as damages to each complainant.

(b) An appeal has been filed by the railways to the State Commission/ Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, against this order.